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Former Boot Camp Counselor Convicted of Child Abuse

A former boot camp instructor was sentenced today after pleading no contest to a felony count of child abuse, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Edgar Alvarado, 38, was immediately sentenced by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Suzette Clover to 60 days in county jail, four years of felony probation and 30 days of community labor. Additionally, Alvarado may not to engage in any kind of counseling, training, or care of minors, whether it is paid or unpaid.

Deputy District Attorney Brook White said Alvarado was the owner "Recon 180," an informal boot camp that dealt with troubled children.

Over a three-year span, several teenagers were hospitalized after entering the boot camp. Officials learned the youths were physically overloaded and experienced exhaustion due to the difficult physical regiments Alvarado put them through. Also, there was no medical supervision at the camp, and the victims' ailments would go untreated, the prosecutor said.

Additionally, the prosecutor said the teens claimed that they were physically abused by the defendant and his staff. The youths claimed they were punched, slapped and stomped on while attending the boot camp.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Special Victim's Bureau.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.